

**METHOD, APPARATUS, AND SYSTEM FOR  
ALLOTING AN AWARD VOLUME IN AN AUCTION**

**ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

- 5 A method of allocating an award in an auction wherein an award for a given auction round is allocated amongst a plurality of highest ranked bidders is disclosed. The method allocates the award between at least the first and second bidders. The method includes conducting the auction and allocating the award between at least the first and second bidders in accordance with the rank of the bidders and a predetermined divisional arrangement. A
- 10 system, an apparatus, and a bidding device that perform the method are also disclosed.

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